

A BIOGRAPHICAL AND CRITICAL DICTIONARY OF PAINTERS, ENGRAVERS, SCULPTORS, AND ARCHITECTS.
SHEARJASHUB SPOONER, M. D. 8vo. pp. 1,131. G. P. Putnam & Co.

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We have here the completion of a voluminous work, of which we have noticed several successive numbers, and they issued from the press. With no claims to novelty, it is a useful compilation of artistic biography, drawn from a variety of the most authentic sources. The author is a well-known enthusiastic lover of the fine arts, and has devoted several years to the study of the subject. He has engaged in the preparation of this work as an matter of personal taste, and its execution shows the diligence and zeal with which it has been pursued. With the increasing interest in Art which is now felt in this country, we regard this publication as seasonable, and well adapted to the purpose for which it was designed.

SUMMER RAMBLER IN THE WEST. By Mrs. ELLET, *Ill.*
Pp. 298. J. C. Rorer.

This is a republication of the lively correspondence which appeared for the first time in *The Tribune* last summer, enlarged by the addition of new matter, and carefully revised. The route of the author was from Sodus Bay to Detroit, through the interior of Michigan to Chicago, then west to the Lead Regions, Minnesota, Lake Superior, and back to the Mammoth Cave in Kentucky. Her adventures on this varied tour are related, as many of our readers know, in a spirited and very agreeable narrative. The volume will form an interesting standard of comparison, in a few years, to judge of the progress of improvement and civilization in the gigantic West.

"GRASS" MAGAZINE," for May, presents an unusually interesting miscellany, both original and selected. "The Pilgrims of St. Bernard" by T. B. Reid is continued. H. W. Herbert contributes a very early article on "Hispania," a topic which calls forth all the enthusiasm of his pen. "Mormon and the Mormons" by C. J. Peterson gives a lucid sketch of the "latter-day saints" whose progress, in regard, as the most extraordinary instance of religious imposture since the days of Mahomet. The writer's suggestions on the political aspects of the Mormon practice of polygamy are not without weight. In an appreciative notice of Stoddard's "Adventures in Fairy Land," we find a brief criticism on his poetical character, which though

Somehow too rose colored, is in the right direction. "Mr. Stoddard is deserving of praise, not only for that which he has performed, but for that which he has withheld. Among the living poets, there is no one possessing a more delicate and subtle fancy, or one more removed from vulgar appreciation than the author of this volume. His poetical efforts have been small in number, brief in quantity, but composed of the very essence of poetry, tissue distilled, without a trace of the grosser particles that usually cling to human works even in their highest state of refinement. A more nervously fastidious writer has not appeared in English literature since the death of Gray." (Sold by Scribner & Townsend.)

THE "HISTORY OF LIBERTY," BY SAMUEL ELIOT. (2 vols. 8vo. Little, Brown & Co.) This work has already appeared in another form. In the present edition, it has been not only revised, but rewritten. It is evidently the result of diligent research, and conscientious toil in composition. But it lacks the glow of genius to give vitality to its learning. The style is labored and generally accurate, but frigid and unimpressive. It shows how little can be effected by mere erudition, without originality. The author owns that he aims at popular effect, but he will surely be disappointed. His work may find its way into the libraries of the learned, but it will never reach the hearts of the people. It has the waxy pallor of a hot-house production.

and cannot live in the open air.

“REASON AND FAITH, AND OTHER MISCELLANIES,” by HENRY ROGERS.—This is a reprint of several Edinburgh Review articles, by a writer who has lately gained some slight celebrity, especially among theological dilettanti in this country. His principles are a familiar knowledge of literary history, a faulty gibbosity of expression in the utterance of respectable common places, and a perfect adaptation of his style to the level of popular prejudices. As a philosophical reasoner, his pretensions are wholly contemptible. The respect with which they have been received in various quarters is only a proof of the superficial culture which is to be found among many of the modern leaders of opinion. (Boston: Crosby, Nichols & Co.)

OF "A TREATISE ON LIGHTNING CONDUCTORS," by LUCAS LION. This volume may be consulted with advantage by all concerned in the erection of buildings. It gives a full view of the theory of thunder storms, together with a great variety of important practical suggestions. In order to certain prejudiced opinions which have been entertained as to the operation of lightning rods, the author claims to have shown that they are founded on no sound basis whatever, and that a judicious application of pointed conductors, both on land and at sea, is not only equally efficacious, but is, in a great variety of cases, quite essential to the preservation of buildings and ships from the ravages of lightning. (12 mo. pp. 191; Geo. P. Putnam & Co.)

☞ "THE BIBLE HYMN BOOK," edited by Rev. HORACE BONAR. A collection of sacred poetry, intended both for general use and for Sunday Schools. It is derived from a great variety of sources, retaining all the well-known favorites, while a large number have been added hitherto but little known. For the most part they are laudeworthy and lyric and pathetic. (12mo, pp. 281. R. Carter & Brothers.

☞ "THE POETICAL WORKS OF THOMAS GRAY," (12mo, pp. 334. Philadelphia, Henry C. Baird. Sold by Dewitt & Davenport.) A beautiful edition of Gray, edited by Prof. HENRY ALFED, with a neat biographical memoir by the American editor.

❖ "HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES," by WILLIAM GRIMSHAW. A new and revised edition of this excellent School History is published by Lippincott, Grambs & Co.

❖ "COTTAGE RESIDENCES," by A. J. DOWNING. A new edition of this work, which is alike admirable for the beauty of its style and the practical value of its suggestions is published by John Wiley.

❖ An edition of MISS STRICKLAND'S "MEMOIRS OF QUEEN ELIZABETH" detached from the large work of the author on "The Queens of England," is published by Blanchard & Lea.

by J. D. L. ZENDER. This is the first part of a complete course of French, illustrated by 560 engravings. (12mo. pp. 48. J. C. Riker.)

“LEGENDS OF THE WEST,” by JAMES HALL. A new edition of these popular stories is issued by G. Putnam & Co.

“ELEMENTS OF HEALTH,” by E. J. TILT, M. D. A work full of good sense. (12mo. pp. 426. Lindsay & Blackiston.)

The following sketch of the editorial habits of the editor of *The Albany Evening Journal*, Thurlow Weed, is

"Somewhere we have seen a sketch of Wend in his sanctum, as it was a couple of years since. A large, plain room, containing a few tables, chairs and a sofa, and separated by a partition, pierced by a broad window, from the composing room. No room could be less private. Next to the corner was the table of the editor, behind a pile of exchanges, cast aside and trampled down by his feet, to keep them from overwhelming him and his table. Here he received calls from State officers, members of Congress, and applicants for columns. He wrote his editorials. In the intervals of conversation he wrote his editorials. Not hastily, and not as he supposed, but slowly, and with many erasures. His accuracy is the fruit of incessant care. He writes much, but always with attention, and with more thought

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destroyed. Mr. Wilson's loss is \$2,500, insured for \$5,000. The buildings were owned by Heli was insured for \$500. The buildings were owned by Wm. Wyman, and were fully insured.

☞ **Jeremiah Humphrey**, charged with manslaughter in killing Thomas Hussey, at the Glendon Rolling Mills East Boston, has been discharged. The jury were of opinion that the act of Humphrey in throwing down Hussey was done in self-defense, and was, therefore, justifiable.

☞ **We learn from The Little Rock (Ark.)** *Whig*, that \$2,045 have been offered as a reward for the arrest of William Renbottom, charged with the murder of James Murkin, in Johnson County, Ark., on the 24th ult., in an affray which we noticed a few days since.

☞ **Capt. Eges** resigned suddenly at his residence on Sunday evening last.

1. *The Arkansas White* states that large numbers of cattle are being driven from that State to California.

2. *The Albany Express* appears in a new dress, edited by J. S. Smith, and is independent in politics.